

Harris Academy

Parent / Carer Newsletter | *Session 2021 - 2022*

Issue 14 | 7th January 2022



Dear Parent / Carer,

Happy New Year! I hope the holiday period was enjoyed by you and your family.

Please find below some information to support a positive start to the school term and 2022.

Door entry

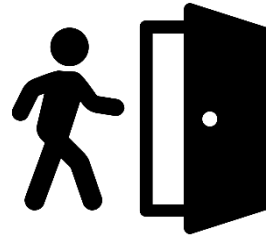
From Monday 10th January, we will rotate the doors that each of our House groups should enter from for the rest of this term. They are:

Art Doors – BIRNAM House

Maths Doors – KINLOCH House

Clock Tower (Plaza) Doors – FORRES House

Main entrance – CAWDOR House



Scottish Government Updated Guidelines for Self-Isolation

As you will be aware, the Scottish Government have now updated their advice for those who require to self-isolate. A helpful FAQ document can be found below which will hopefully answer any questions you may have.

<http://harrisacademy.ea.dundee.city.sch.uk/self-isolation-changes-ga.pdf>

The key points that are relevant in our school's context are:

- ✓ If a young person or member of staff are showing any symptoms of COVID, please stay off school, isolate and book a PCR test
- ✓ Please continue to test twice a week using Lateral Flow Tests **and record the results via www.covidtest.scot**
- ✓ If your LFT comes back positive, you should take this as confirmation that you have contracted the COVID virus. There is no need for you to book a PCR test. You should now self-isolate
- ✓ Self-isolation remains as 10 days for all adults (over 18 years and 4 months) who are **not** fully vaccinated (two doses of the vaccine and a booster). All adults who are fully vaccinated and all school-aged young people who have tested positive can now take a lateral flow test on day 6 and then repeat it on day 7. If both tests are negative and you have no signs of fever, **your isolation can end at this earlier point**

More details related to the above can be found in the FAQ sheet but please feel free to contact the school if you have any further queries.



Senior Phase Assessments - Overview 2021 - 2022

As previously communicated in November, our return to a full SQA Exam Diet in May will also signal the first time that any of our young people in the Senior Phase will have the opportunity to sit examinations in a large-scale format, supported by SQA Invigilators and the associated rigors and regulations. To support our young people prepare for this experience we have taken the decision to plan three formal assessment opportunities that take place between December 2021 and February 2022. Departments will have the opportunity to offer young people an extended assessment that reflects the demands of the SQA examination.

To facilitate this, we have been granted approval to give study leave to all young people entered for at least one National 5 course. Study leave runs from Thursday 27th January until Wednesday 2nd February inclusive. The library will be available for private study during this period.

In addition to this, you may notice that your young person may begin to undertake learning that contributes towards any externally assessed coursework that contributes to their National Qualification, commonly referred to as Assignments. Due to SQA course modifications, the Assignment has been removed from some, but not all National Qualifications.

Below you will find a Quick-View Calendar that provides you with a summary of our planned assessments. A full timetable will be published on the school website and will be issued to all families next week.

Senior Phase Formal Assessments					
Week Beginning	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10 th January 2022	N5 – AH Music Practical	N5 – AH Music Practical	N5 – AH Music Practical	N5 – AH Music Practical	N5 – AH Music Practical
17 th January 2022	N5 – AH Music Practical H English: Col B Paper 1 N5 English: Col B Paper 1	N5 – AH Music Practical	N5 – AH Music Practical S4 N5 English Paper 1	N5 – AH Music Practical H English: Col B & C Paper 2 N5 English: Col B & C Paper 2	N5 – AH Music Practical S4 N5 English Paper 2 H English: Col C Paper 1
<p>All the assessments listed above will take place during timetabled classes with the following exceptions: Thursday 20th: Col C English Paper 2 assessments will take place during Core PE/RMPS times Friday 21st: All S4 candidates will sit Paper 2 during P3 & P4</p>					
24 th January 2022				Study Leave Begins Column C Assessments	Column B Assessments
31 st January 2022	Column E Assessments S4 Drama Practical	Column D Assessments	Study Leave Ends Column A Assessments	S5/6 Drama Practical	
<p>Young people will be informed of the exact timings of their assessments by their class teachers. A copy of the full Formal Assessment timetable will be published on the school website, Parents' Newsletter and will be emailed to all families. Any young person in receipt of Alternative Assessment Arrangements will be issued an individualised timetable.</p>					

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Course Choice Update

All course choice information can be found on our website <http://harrisacademy.ea.dundee.city.sch.uk/course-choice>

Course Choice Information sharing evening S2 into S3

S2 into S3 course choice starts week beginning the 10th of January

Please follow the Teams link below to join us online for the S2 into S3 course choice information evening 10th January at 7pm. This is an opportunity to find out about our course choice process and the transition to Senior Phase. This is also an opportunity to meet Skills Development Scotland staff and have any questions that you may have answered.

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Course Choice Information sharing evening Senior Phase

S3 into S4 course choice starts week beginning 24th January

S4 into S5 and S5 into S6 course choice starts week beginning 14th February

Please follow the Teams link below to join us online for the Senior Phase course choice information evening 17th January at 7pm. This is an opportunity to find out about our course choice process and to have any questions answered. Our partners from Skills Development Scotland and Dundee College will be in attendance.

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Young Persons' Free Bus Travel Scheme

You may be aware that from the 31st January, Transport Scotland are introducing free bus travel to everyone in Scotland aged from 5 – 21 years of age.

I am awaiting details as to how young people and their families apply for this fantastic resource. As soon as the details are passed on to the school, I will be back in touch.

Kind regards,

Barry Millar
Head Teacher



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